Utilisation of flood water in Bihar

† 2224. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD.

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the quantum of water accumulated in Bihar in the form of flood water during the rainy season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any plan for the utilisation of such water and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAIPRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Water Resources are assessed basin wise and not Statewise. As per the latest assessment made by Central Water Commission, the average annual water resources potential in the river systems of the country has been estimated to be 1869 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM), out of which the surface water resources that can be put to beneficial use has been estimated to be 690 BCM.

(c) Interlinking of rivers under National Perspective Plan prepared by Ministry of Water Resources in 1980, envisages construction of storage dams. Generally the storage dams reduce the severity of floods and flood damages considerably by virtue of their capacity and also by way of transfer of flood water through link canals to water short basins. The Government envisages a comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of linking of rivers of the country in a fully consultative manner.

Linking of Ganga and Yamuna Rivers

† 2225. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to decline in the water level in Yamuna river, a number of cities situated on the river bank are facing acute water crisis;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered any proposal to link this river with the Ganges in order to increase the water level of this river;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) No decreasing trend is apparent during the last five years as per the studies of Central Water Commission. However, National Water Development Agency as part of its studies of National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development, has carried out water balance studies of Yamuna and classified it as deficit basin upto Okhla in Delhi. Under Himalayan Component of National Perspective Plan, Ghaghra-Yamuna link and Sarda-Yamuna link are envisaged which *inter-alia,* aim at augmenting the availability of water for domestic use in the cities situated on the banks of Yamuna.

Task force on recurring floods

2226. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prme Minister has directed the Ministry of Water Resources to set-up a task force by July 31,2004 to look into the problems of recurring floods in Assam and neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the names of members of this task force;

(c) what will be the main aims and objects of the task force; and

(d) to what extent this task force will be able to meet the needs of the States which are affected by floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Prime Minister during his recent visits to Assam and Bihar had announced setting up of a Task Force to look into the problem of recurring floods in Assam and neighbouring States. Accordingly as a follow